



**State of Maine
Bureau of General Services
Planning, Design & Construction Division**

**Request for Qualifications
Information for Architects and Engineers**

The **Maine Judicial Branch** wishes to procure architectural/engineering services for the **new courthouse for Superior and District Courts** in **Belfast, Maine**.

The scope of this project includes, but is not limited to, **program review, schematic design, design development, construction documents, bidding/negotiations and construction administration**. Depending upon timing of the hiring, **site selection assistance** may also be part of the scope. The firm may be required to coordinate this work or additional work with other consultants contracted by the Owner.

Interested firms should submit **one paper copy and one electronic copy** of a **Letter of Interest with a Statement of Qualifications** which includes the firm's:

- A. qualifications to undertake this project;
- B. experience with budgets and project cost control, with some results of the firm's activities;
- C. list of projects that demonstrate the firm's capabilities;
- D. list of recently completed work of similar type and size projects, with client contact information for each project;
- E. profiles of key personnel who will be involved in the project;
- F. statement of current workload and ability to absorb the project; and
- G. list of business references other than those listed above, including contact information.

The *paper copy* of the **Letter of Interest and Statement of Qualifications** should be sent to **Jeff Henthorn, Director of Court Facilities, PO Box 4820, Portland, Maine 04112** so as to be received not later than **1:00 PM on September 1, 2016**. The *electronic copy* of the Letter of Interest and Statement of Qualifications should be sent as an attachment to an email addressed to jeff.henthorn@courts.maine.gov so as to meet the deadline noted above.

Firms responding will be screened and interviewed on the basis of qualifications only. Project fees and specific design solutions for this project will not be discussed at the interview. Specific program information will not be available before the screening of qualification packages. The selection committee will rank all firms and negotiate fees with the highest ranked firm.



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Architect-Engineer Procurement Process

The standard procurement process of Architect and Engineer design services for public improvements is a Qualification Based Selection (QBS) process per statute (Title 5, §1742 subsection 6), described briefly here.

1. The advertisement of this Request for Qualifications is the initial step in the process after the Agency assures that the project itself approved and funded. A clear scope of services statement is an essential component of the advertisement.
2. Interested firms respond to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) as described below, submitting the Letter of Interest and Statement of Qualifications to the Selection Committee.
3. The Selection Committee screens all submissions and invites the most qualified firms to interview for the project, typically three to five firms.
4. The Selection Committee interviews the firms. Second interviews may be scheduled. References are checked.
5. The Selection Committee ranks all of the interviewed firms. The Committee negotiates an agreement with the highest ranked firm based on the scope of professional services identified in the RFQ and interview.
6. A BGS Architect-Engineer Agreement is drafted.
7. The agreement must be approved by BGS before work commences.